

Application No .09/721,904
Amendment dated July 12, 2004
Reply to Advisory Action of July 8, 2004

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LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 158 (previously cancelled)

159. (cancelled)

160. (previously cancelled)

161. (cancelled)

162. (cancelled)

163. (cancelled)

164. (previously cancelled)

165. (previously cancelled)

166. (previously cancelled)

167. (previously cancelled)

168. (previously cancelled)

169. (previously cancelled)

170. (currently amended) A method of stimulating expression of at least one defensin in a mammal in need thereof, by directly exposing epithelial cells of the mammal to a compound comprising soluble CD14. ~~The method of claim 159,~~ wherein the compound comprises CD14 obtained from a mammalian mammary secretion.

171. (previously added) The method of claim 170, wherein the CD14 is obtained from bovine milk.

172. (previously added) The method of claim 170 wherein, if the secretion has been previously subjected to a treatment step, the treatment step is sufficiently mild to permit

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preservation of CD14 activity for inducing or stimulating defensin production in epithelial cells.

173. (previously added) The method of claim 170, wherein the CD14 is contained in a liquid.

174. (previously added) The method of claim 173, wherein the liquid comprises a fraction of the milk enriched in said CD14.

175. (previously added) The method of claim 170, wherein said CD14 is contained in an edible product.

176. (previously added) The method of claim 170, including administering the CD14 to the mammal orally.

177. (cancelled)

178. (cancelled)

179. (previously cancelled)

180. (currently amended) A method of stimulating expression of at least one defensin in a mammal in need thereof, by directly exposing epithelial cells of the mammal to a compound comprising soluble CD14 or a polypeptide portion of CD14 that enhances said expression, or a conservatively substituted variant of said CD14 or the portion that enhances said expression, and exposing epithelial cells of the mammal comprises exposing the respiratory tract of a said mammal to an effective amount of a said compound and includes ~~The method of claim 162 including~~ administering the compound in the form of an aerosol.

181. (cancelled)

182. (cancelled)

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183. (cancelled)

184. (cancelled)

185. (cancelled)

186. (cancelled)

187. (cancelled)

188. (cancelled)

189. (cancelled)

190. (cancelled)

191. (cancelled)

192. (previously cancelled)

193. (cancelled)

194. (cancelled)

195. (cancelled)

196. (previously cancelled)

197. (previously cancelled)

197. (previously cancelled)

198. (cancelled)

199. (currently amended) A method of stimulating expression of at least one defensin in a mammal in need thereof, by directly exposing epithelial cells of the mammal to a

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compound, ~~The method of claim 159~~, wherein said compound comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group of sequences identified as SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6 and SEQ ID NO:7.

200. (previously amended) The method claim 199, wherein the compound is a protein obtained from a mammalian mammary secretion.

201. (previously amended) The method of claim 200, wherein the protein is obtained from bovine milk.

202. (previously added) The method of claim 201, wherein the protein comprises the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:4.

203. (previously cancelled)

204. (previously cancelled)

205. (previously cancelled)

206. (previously cancelled)

207. (previously cancelled) .

208. (previously cancelled)

209. (previously cancelled)

210. (previously cancelled)

211. (previously cancelled)

212. (previously cancelled)

213. (previously cancelled)

214. (previously cancelled)

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215. (previously cancelled)

216. (previously cancelled)

217. (previously cancelled)

218. (previously cancelled)

219. (previously cancelled)

220. (previously cancelled)

221. (previously cancelled)

222. (previously added) A method of stimulating the expression of a defensin in a mammal, the method comprising directly exposing epithelial cells of the mammal to an isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group of amino acid sequences identified as SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NO:7.

223. (currently amended) The method of claim 222, wherein the said amino acid sequence is the amino acid sequence ~~sequences~~ identified as SEQ ID NO:4.

224. (cancelled)

225. (cancelled)

226. (previously added) A method of enhancing expression of defensins in a mammal in need thereof, the method comprising directly exposing epithelial cells of the mammal to an isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group of amino acid sequences identified as SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NO:7.

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227. (currently amended) The method of claim 226, wherein the said amino acid sequence is the amino acid sequence ~~sequences~~ identified as SEQ ID NO: 4.

228. (previously added) The method of claim 180, wherein the compound comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group of sequences identified as SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6 and SEQ ID NO:7, or a conservatively substituted variant thereof.

229. (previously added) The method of claim 228, wherein the compound comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group of sequences identified as SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6 and SEQ ID NO:7.

230. (previously added) The method of claim 229, wherein the compound comprises an amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:4.

231. (cancelled)

232. (cancelled)

233. (cancelled)

234. (cancelled)

235. (cancelled)

236. (cancelled)

237. (cancelled)

238. (cancelled)

239. (cancelled)

240. (cancelled)

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241. (cancelled)

242. (cancelled)

243. (cancelled)

244. (cancelled)

245. (cancelled)

246. (cancelled)

247. (cancelled)

248. (cancelled)

249. (cancelled)

250. (cancelled)

251. (cancelled)

252. (cancelled)

253. (cancelled)

254. (cancelled)

255. (cancelled)